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Message Text

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ORIGIN EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SOE-02 AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00
COME-00 DODE-00 EB-08 DOE-11 H-02 INR-10 INT-05
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----------035413 250621Z /15
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FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY OTTAWA PRIORITY
INFO AMCONSUL CALGARY PRIORITY
AMCONSUL TORONTO PRIORITY
AMCONSUL VANCOUVER PRIORITY

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ENRG, CA

SUBJECT: CANADIAN DECISION AGAINST WEST COAST OIL TERMINAL

1. FOLLOWING CONTINGENCY PRESS GUIDANCE WAS PREPARED IN ANTICIPATION OF POSSIBLE QUESTIONS ON GOC ANNOUNCEMENT OF FEBRUARY 23.

2. QUOTE: QUESTION: WHAT IS THE USG REACTION TO THE CANADIAN DECISION ANNOUNCED YESTERDAY THAT THEY DON'T SEE ANY NEED FOR A WEST COAST OIL TERMINAL FOR THE FORESEEABLE FUTURE?

ANSWER: WE STILL HAVE THE CANADIAN ANNOUNCEMENT UNDER STUDY.
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AS YOU KNOW, A PIPELINE FROM KITIMAT, BRITISH COLUMBIA, TO THE UPPER MIDWEST OF THE US HAS BEEN ONE OF THE POSSIBLE ROUTES UNDER REVIEW IN THE US FOR DELIVERY OF WEST COAST OIL TO THE CENTRAL STATES. WE HAVE BEEN INTERESTED IN KEEPING THAT OPTION OPEN FOR STUDY IN COMPARISON WITH OTHER POSSIBILITIES. OBVIOUSLY WE WOULD BE DISAPPOINTED IF THIS IS NO LONGER A VIABLE OPTION, BUT IT SHOULD BE RECOGNIZED

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THAT THIS IS A CANADIAN DECISION TO TAKE.

QUESTION: DOESN'T THE USG CONSIDER THAT THIS NEGATIVE CANADIAN DECISION, COMING ON TOP OF THEIR DECISION EARLIER

THIS WEEK TO USE A PIPE SIZE IN THE JOINT NORTHERN GAS PIPELINE THAT EXCLUDES US SUPPLIERS FROM COMPETING FOR THE CONTRACT, IS CONTRARY TO OUR CLOSE AND FRIENDLY RELATIONS?

ANSWER: THE UNITED STATES AND CANADA HAVE INDEPENDENT ENERGY POLICIES THAT HAVE TO MEET THEIR OWN NATIONAL NEEDS. WITHIN THIS CONTEXT WE COOPERATE VERY CLOSELY AND WITH REAL MUTUAL ADVANTAGE. BUT WE CANNOT EXPECT THAT WE WILL ALWAYS AGREE ON EVERY QUESTION. DIFFERENCES ON SPECIFIC ISSUES WILL CONTINUE TO ARISE, BUT SHOULD NOT BE INTERPRETED TO MEAN THAT OUR CLOSE BILATERAL COOPERATION WHERE THERE IS MUTUAL BENEFIT, IS NOT CONTINUING. UNQUOTE. VANCE

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TAGS: ENRG, CA, US
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